



Welcome!

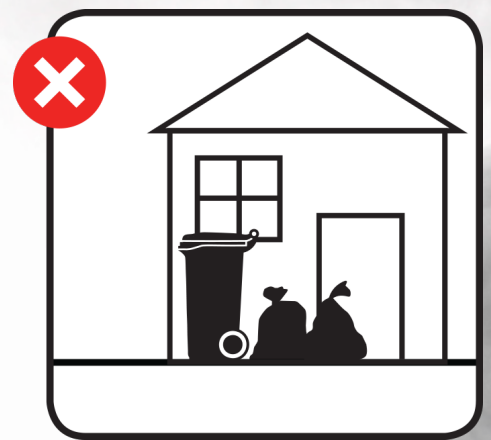
Spring 2023

To our Spring edition of the Schools Stay Safe Newsletter.
Read on for advice on ways to stay safe for you and your family.

Be Arson Aware!!

Advice to help you reduce the threat to your home and neighbourhood:

- Reduce access to your property for trespassers and opportunist arsonists.
- Secure your boundary, repair or block gaps in hedges, walls or fences.
- If you have gates close and lock them.
- Secure sheds, garages, and other outbuildings with padlocks or similar.
- Fit external lighting to alert you to intruders.
- Manage your refuse so there are no fuel sources for opportunists. Clear any rubbish from garden, behind sheds etc.
- Store wheelie bins securely, away from property and out of sight.
- Put bins out on collection day only and bring them back in asap.
- Large items like furniture, old vehicles or rubble provide a fuel source, contact your local council for advice on removal of bulky waste.





Smoking and Vaping – are you safe?

In recent years, e-cigarettes have become a very popular stop smoking aid in the UK.

However, using the wrong charger can lead to an increased risk of fire.

We strongly recommend the following:

- Buy products from reputable dealers.
- Never leave a vaping device charging unattended, and never leave them charging overnight – especially next to your bed.
- Never use a vaping device close to medical oxygen, flammable emollient creams or airflow mattresses.
- Do not buy counterfeit goods as batteries and/or chargers are unlikely to have overcurrent protection and could lead to batteries exploding.
- Never use damaged equipment or batteries. Fire is not the only risk posed by vaping products and the liquid they contain can be highly toxic.

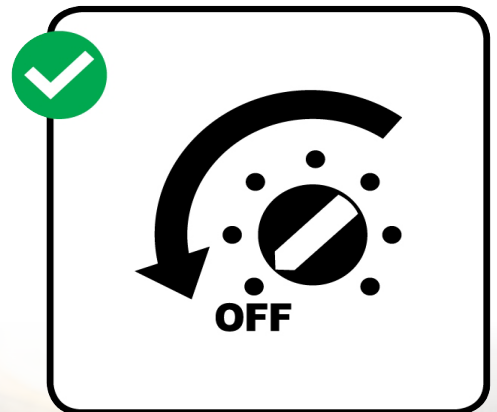




Cooking Safely for you and your Family

Leaving your cooking unattended is the biggest cause of kitchen fires. You should consider the following advice to stay safe;

- Avoid cooking when under the influence of alcohol.
- Avoid leaving children in the kitchen alone when cooking on the hob. Keep matches and saucepan handles out of their reach to keep them safe.
- Make sure saucepan handles don't stick out so they don't get knocked off the stove.
- Take care if you're wearing loose clothing as they can easily catch fire.
- Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob.
- Spark devices are safer than matches or lighters to light gas cookers because they don't have a naked flame.
- Double check the cooker is off when you've finished cooking





Are you aware of Staywise?

Staywise is an interactive website packed full of fun activities from the UK's leading emergency services and safety-focused organisations, making it easy for you to find trusted activities that provide learning opportunities to help keep you safe.

There's lots to do on there for children and they are learning as they play!



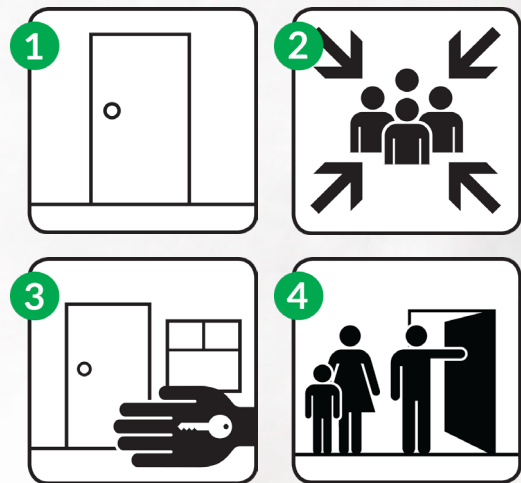
Have you tested your smoke detector lately?

Do you have a night-time routine?

Would you know how to escape in the unlikely event of a fire?

We encourage you to book yourself a free safe and well visit today. The local station numbers are at the bottom of this newsletter.

Don't forget, the visit is **free**!



If you need any further information or advice on any of these topics, please feel free to call our friendly staff at your local station:

- **Hertford Fire Station**
01992 507611
Hertford.fire@hertfordshire.gov.uk
- **Cheshunt Fire Station**
01992 901900
Cheshunt.fire@hertfordshire.gov.uk
- **Bishops Stortford Fire Station**
01279 696800
BishopsStortford.fire@hertfordshire.gov.uk

 Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

 Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Community Safety

 www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fire